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EMBO Events Calendar

EU Centre in Singapore

INDONESIA: Call for Papers - 2013 International Conference on Computer, Control, Informatics and its Applications, Jakarta, 19 – 21 November

INDONESIA: HABITechno 2013, 11 November 2013

SINGAPORE: 3rd Nano Today Conference, 8 – 11 December 2013

SINGAPORE: World Health Summit, Regional Meeting, 8 – 10 April 2013

THAILAND: Workshop on Iterative Risk Management for Climate Change Adaptation, 22 – 26 April 2013

THAILAND: 13th Science Council of Asia Conference and International Symposium, 7 – 9 May 2013

BELGIUM: World Research and Innovation Congress, 5 & 6 June 2013, Brussels

BELGIUM: The 1st International conference on Internet Science, Brussels, 10 & 11 April 2013

DENMARK: 21st European Biomass Conference and Exhibition, Copenhagen, 3 – 7 June 2013

FRANCE: International Workshop on Organic Matter Spectroscopy 2013 (WOMS 2013), 16 – 19 July 2013

GERMANY: Graphene Week 2013, Chemnitz, 2 – 7 June 2013

GERMANY: Future Megacities in Action, Hamburg, 14 – 16 May 2013

SPAIN: Cleantech Forum Europe 2013 - Re-imagining Cleantech: Unlocking Growth in an Open Innovation World, Bilbao, 16-18 April 2013

SPAIN: CONCORDi-2013: 4th European Conference on Corporate R&D and Innovation, Seville, 26 & 27 September 2013

SPAIN: Fifth International Conference on Environmental, Industrial and Applied Microbiology - BioMicroWorld2013, Madrid, 2 – 4 October 2013

SWITZERLAND: Environment and Health – Bridging South, North, East and West, Basel, 19 – 23 August 2013

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1. Meet the Researcher: Interview with Dr Wieslaw Nowinski



Dr Wieslaw Nowinski is the creator of the “world’s most gorgeous” human brain atlases. Born and educated in Poland he is currently working as principal scientist and director of A*STAR’s Biomedical Imaging Lab in Singapore. His research includes brain atlases, stroke, deep brain stimulation, brain quantification, neuroinformatics, medical image processing, virtual reality, computer-assisted diagnosis and treatment, and future directions in computer-aided radiology and surgery. He holds 515 publications to his name, has filed 50 patent applications, and he and his team have developed 26 brain atlas products used worldwide in neurosurgery, neuroradiology, neurology, brain mapping, and neuroeducation. These atlases have been commercially licensed to 16 companies. He has started 3 high-tech companies from his lab. Dr Nowinski has been conferred with 38 awards and honours. He has just been named Pioneer in Medicine in 2013.

Q: Dr Nowinski, you have just been named Pioneer in Medicine 2013. Congratulations! However, this is just one of the almost 40 honours that you have been awarded with for your work. Could you tell us a little bit about your research?

A: Thank you.

My research, generally, covers computer-assisted diagnosis, treatment and medical education; medical image processing; virtual reality; and future directions in computer-aided radiology and surgery. My focus is on brain atlases, stroke, deep brain stimulation, brain quantification, and neuroinformatics. I have proposed a number of new concepts, including atlas-assisted processing of medical images (US patent), do-it-yourself neurosurgery (published), helical stereotaxy (US patent), operating room of the future (published), probabilistic functional atlas (US patent), probabilistic stroke atlas (patent pending), and atlas-assisted stroke image processing (US patent).

This research has resulted in 515 publications and 50 patent applications filed (30 already granted, 15 in USA). With my team we have developed 26 brain atlas products used worldwide in neurosurgery, neuroradiology, neurology, brain mapping, and neuroeducation. Three high-tech companies have been spun off from my lab, and two more are in the process.

Q: Which impact do you think does your work have to improve the lives of ordinary people?

A: A direct impact of my work is surgical treatment of Parkinson’s disease patients and, generally, any patients treated with deep brain stimulation for movement and motor disorders, pain, epilepsy, and psychiatric disorders. I have introduced several new concepts to atlas-assisted stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. The electronic brain atlases created by me have been incorporated in about 1,200 neurosurgical workstations and distributed worldwide by leading surgical companies, including Medtronic (USA), BrainLab (Germany) and Elekta (Sweden). These atlases have been commercially licensed to 16 companies and a few more companies are in the process of licensing them.

Indirect impact is through medical education and training. Ten brain atlases have been distributed by a leading medical publisher Thieme, New York-Stuttgart to about 7,000 medical institutions and individual clinicians. The iPad version of the atlas is being introduced to medical schools.

I expect more impact in the near future. We are in the process of forming a stroke company with a US investor and Johns Hopkins Hospital, USA. The company will focus on diagnosis, treatment and prediction of ischemic and haemorrhagic strokes. Moreover, with Mayo Clinic, USA we work on a PET/CT brain atlas to assist diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease.

Q: What motivates you as a researcher?

A: Challenging problems to solve. Helping humanity. As stated in one of my journal papers: "If a clinician helps thousands of patients and a researcher could help thousands of clinicians, then doing medical research is the most rewarding job".

Q: You started your professional career in Poland at a time when the mobility of researchers was still very much curtailed. How did the political changes of the late 1980s affect your work as a researcher?

A: I received broad and solid education in Poland. I studied and worked with many gifted and creative individuals. In Poland my concepts could be published but not made real. This changed when I moved to Singapore with its entrepreneurial spirit, efficient IP management, strong R&D commercialization, and of course a great R&D team. So I benefited of strengths of both countries.

Q: As a European working in Asia how important is the scientific cooperation between these two regions and what are your predictions for the future of cooperation?

A: My experience shows that this cooperation is very beneficial to both sides. I have strong linkages with European institutions and companies. We work on stroke with several centers in Poland and Italy. With Prof. A.L. Benabid of France, the inventor of deep brain stimulation and one of the most innovative neurosurgeons, we have published several papers and developed one commercial brain atlas. Our brain atlases are distributed by above-mentioned Thieme and we have an excellent partnership with its branch in Stuttgart. Leading image-guided surgery companies, such as BrainLab (Germany) and Elekta (Sweden) distribute our brain atlases in their neurosurgical workstations.

Q: As a scientist which goals are you still hoping to achieve?

A: I think that we are just touching the tip of the iceberg. I have lots of short- and long-term goals and dreams in my mind. To form the stroke company and make it successful we need to complete the validation of our patented algorithms and develop efficient CAD systems for ischemic and haemorrhagic strokes, both for emergency room and stroke center. Another startup under negotiations is on brain atlases for medical and layman education. It requires me to design simple and low cost products about the most complex organ.

Our brain atlas development is a long-term effort. In contrast to EU and US brain projects (with bottom-up approaches), my approach is top-down by building the whole brain model first and then parcellating it into smaller and smaller components. We have started with 3D neuroanatomy (including structural, vascular and connectional), which is the foundation of any brain efforts, and keep extending our work towards brain function and neurological

disorders. This approach allows us to keep delivering solutions (including frequent products) during the process of development, without lengthy waiting for the final results. Our brain atlasing effort is at the right time, as both USA and EU are committed to spend billions over the next decade on brain research.

Thank you very much for the interview!

2. EU Insight

Unitary Patent Protection – Historic Achievement for the EU

On 19 February 2013, 24 member states (MS) signed an agreement sealing the establishment of a [Unified Patent Court](#) (UPC) for the European Union (on 5 March 2013 another MS joined the signatory countries; see [Unitary Patent - Ratification Process](#) for the current state of ratification and the list of participating countries; the only two exceptions are Italy and Spain). The UPC is the third element of the so-called “**EU patent package**” – a legislative initiative agreed upon on 11 December 2012 by the MS and the European Parliament after nearly four decades of discussions and failed agreements (for a detailed history of the unitary patent protection process see [The long road to unitary patent protection in Europe](#)).

What is the “unitary patent package”?

The 'unitary patent package' consists of three components:

- a [Regulation \(EU, No 1257/2012\)](#) by the European Parliament and the Council creating a European patent with unitary effect (or 'unitary patent') (adopted on 17 Dec 2012);
- a [Council Regulation \(EU, No 1260/2012\)](#) establishing a language regime applicable to the unitary patent (adopted on 17 Dec 2012);
- an [international agreement \(No 16351/12\)](#) among Member States setting up a single and specialised patent jurisdiction (the 'Unified Patent Court').

Infobox: What is a patent?

A patent can be granted for any inventions having a technical character provided that they are new, involve an inventive step and are susceptible of industrial application. A patent can cover how things work, what they do, what they are made of, and how they are made. Anybody - an individual or a company or an institution - can apply for a patent. Patents encourage companies to make the necessary investment for innovation. There would be little incentive otherwise for individuals and companies to devote the necessary resources to research and development (for more detailed information see [Patents - FQA](#)).

What are the main advantages of the new initiative?

As the [official website of the European Union](#) explains, there are four main advantages that the reform package will bring:

- It will create a unitary patent with uniform protection within the territory of the participating 25 Member States;
- The unitary patent will be available on a one-stop shop basis at affordable costs, as it will be centrally granted by the European Patent Office and no further validation requirements need to be fulfilled and applications can be filed in any language;
- It will create a unified and specialised jurisdiction in patent matters for the participating Member States, and thus avoid an unnecessary duplication of litigation cases before the various courts of the various Member States concerned, and enhance legal certainty; and
- It will ensure the dissemination of patent information in all languages of the European Union through high-quality machine translation services which will be available online and free of charge.

The single unitary patent option will offer those who wish to protect their invention in Europe huge cost advantages and reduce the administrative burden.

Cost reduction and language solution

When the new system is up to speed, an EU patent may cost just €4,725, compared to an average of €36,000 needed today, says the European Commission (for a comparison EU-USA-China see [Closing the competitiveness gap](#); for a costs comparison old system – new system see [Costs comparison: "Classic" European Patent versus new Unitary patent](#)).

Applications for European patents can be filed in any language, as the [European Union](#) states. Yet applicants have to provide a translation of the application into English, French or German which are the official languages of the EPO (if the application was not filed in one of the official languages). Under the new translation regime applicable to the creation of the unitary patent protection, SMEs, natural persons, non-profit organisations, universities and public research organisations having their residence or principal place of business within any of the 27 EU Member States will get a compensation of all translation costs up to a ceiling if the application was filed in one of the official languages of the European Union that is not an official language of the EPO.

The European patent is granted in one of the three EPO languages. High-quality machine translations – on-line and free of charge – will soon be available in all languages. The European Patent Office (EPO) is already providing a machine translation service for 13 languages (between English and Danish, Dutch, German, Finnish, French, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish and Swedish). By the end of 2014 the service is expected to cover 32 languages, including all languages of the European Union, plus important non-European languages such as Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Russian. The machine translation service "Patent Translate" can be accessed via the following [website](#).

(For a graphical overview see “[Unitary Patent Protection - How does it work?](#)”)

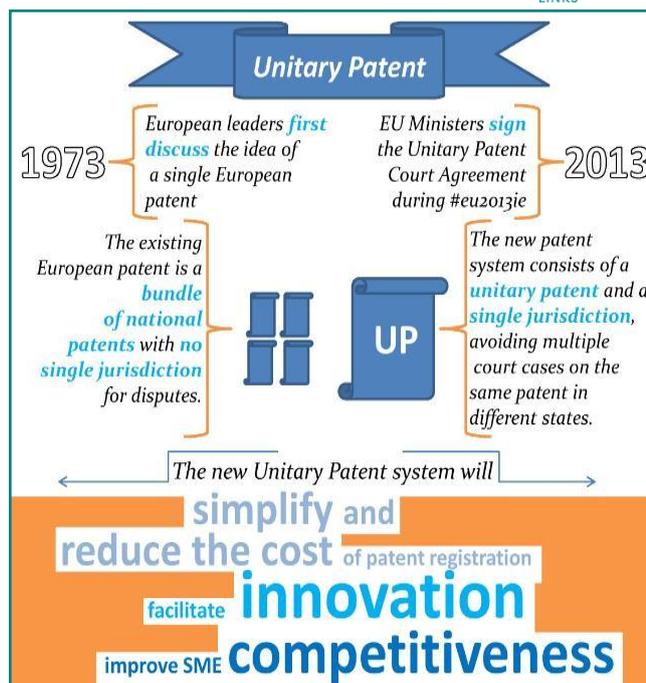
A Voice from the EU

As Commissioner Michel Barnier said in a [statement regarding the unitary patent reform](#), this step is expected to result in a better stance for the EU in competing with the US and China patent protection-wise. “In the United States, in 2011, 224 000 patents were granted, in China 172 000 while here in Europe only 62 000 European patents were delivered. One of the reasons for this difference is without a doubt the prohibitive cost and the complexity of obtaining patent protection throughout the single market. The new texts adopted open the way to simplified procedures and a reduction by one-seventh in the costs for our businesses of protecting their innovations in 25 EU countries. ... With this far-reaching agreement, the European Parliament and the Council bring a decisive contribution to the implementation of the economic and growth agenda.”

What happens next?

The international agreement creating a unified patent court will enter into force on 1 January 2014 or after thirteen contracting states ratify it, provided that UK, France and Germany are among them.

The other two acts will apply from 1 January 2014, or from the date when the international agreement enters into force, whichever is the latest. The European Commission will report on how the new regime is working three years after it takes effect.



Source: [Irish EU Presidency Website: Explained - A Unitary Patent System for Europe](#)

Sources and more detailed information can be found on the [website of the European Parliament](#), the [website of the European Union](#) and the [homepage of the EU Single Market initiative](#).

3. NEWS & DEVELOPMENTS

European Union

EUA presents new report on quality assurance in doctoral education

The European University Association (EUA) published a new report that analyses the development of quality assurance processes (internal and external) for doctoral education in European universities. Based on quantitative information gathered from a survey of over 100 universities across Europe and qualitative information collected during a series of focus groups and a workshop, the report is the outcome of the two-year EC-supported ARDE project led by EUA. Thomas Jorgensen, one of the report authors, argued that the project had shown that doctoral education is being managed more professionally (in particular with the establishment of doctoral schools) and that institutions are giving more attention to accountability and quality enhancement. The ARDE project highlighted, for example, that universities have set up, or are setting up internal quality processes at doctoral level including mechanisms for monitoring time-to-degree and completion rates, and guidelines for admission, supervision and the thesis. These processes also focus on the quality of the research environment and seek to engage different stakeholders. The ARDE project survey revealed that almost 90% of respondents had written procedures/regulations for admission of candidates and 91% systematically monitored progress of candidates.

Source: [EUA](#)

EU provides €144 million for new research on rare diseases

The European Commission has announced €144 million of new funding for 26 research projects on rare diseases. The projects will help improve the lives of some of the 30 million Europeans suffering from a rare disease. The selected projects bring together over 300 participants from 29 countries in Europe and beyond, including teams from leading academic institutions, SMEs and patients' groups. The goal is to pool resources and work beyond borders, to get a better understanding of rare diseases and find adequate treatments.

Source: [Joint Research Centre](#)

Interactive OLED data eyeglasses wins INNOVATION AWARD IT 2013

The interactive data eyeglasses based on bi-directional OLED microdisplays of the Fraunhofer COMEDD wins the Innovation Award IT 2013 in the category "hardware". On March 5th, 2013 the Innovation Award IT 2013, awarded by the "Initiative of medium-sized businesses", was presented to the winners during the CeBIT 2013, in Hanover/Germany. The interactive OLED data eyeglasses wins the award in the category "hardware". Dr Rigo Herold, system designer at Fraunhofer COMEDD, who has developed the data eyeglasses principally, is pleased about such recognition of his work: "This award shows especially that - apart from Google - intensive research on data eyeglasses is done also in Germany. However, our OLED data eyeglasses have a sensational unique feature: They can be gaze-controlled by the user's eyes. My special thanks go as well to our partners Fraunhofer IOSB and Trivisio." The OLED data eyeglasses of Fraunhofer COMEDD convinced a professional jury of 100 professors, scientists, industrial representatives, IT experts and journalists since they meet all requirements: They are innovative, have practical relevance and are especially suitable for medium-sized companies. The Innovation Award IT has been awarded to medium-sized businesses for the best IT solutions for the past 10 years. In its anniversary

year the Innovation Award IT is more than ever dedicated to the motto "We share Innovation". Altogether there were 4,900 submissions in 40 categories.

Source: [CORDIS WIRE](#)

Strong signs Higgs boson has been found: CERN

Latest analysis of data from the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) particle accelerator, where the boson was spotted as a bump on a graph early in 2012, "strongly indicates" it is the Higgs, said CERN, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research. Physicists believe the boson and its linked energy field were vital in the formation of the universe after the Big Bang 13.7 billion years ago by bringing flying particles together to make stars, planets and eventually humans - giving mass to matter, in the scientific jargon. The particle and the field, named for British physicist Peter Higgs who predicted their existence 50 years ago, are also the last major missing elements in what scientists call the Standard Model of how the cosmos works at the very basic level.

Source: [REUTERS](#)

European team of researchers examines the effects of breast cancer radiotherapy

It has long been assumed that radiotherapy for breast cancer increases the risk of heart disease later in life. However, little has been known about the nature of the risk, and whether certain individuals are particularly susceptible to ionising radiation. A new study by Swedish, British and Danish researchers sought to address these issues. The study looked at almost 2,200 Danish and Swedish women who received radiotherapy for breast cancer between 1958 and 2001. Information from radiotherapy charts and medical records were used to estimate mean radiation doses to the heart. Researchers were therefore able to gather information about the medical history and risk factors for heart disease of each woman. A clear correlation between radiation dose and risk of ischemic heart disease was revealed. The risk was particularly pronounced for women with diabetes, chronic obstructive lung disorders, angina or other heart diseases, a high BMI, or who were smokers at the time of their treatment. The highest risks were noted during the first ten years following treatment, after which the risk decreased, but was still elevated 20 years after radiotherapy.

Source: [CORDIS](#)

EU FP7 funded project uses marine extracts and active substances to fight cancer

Multiple myeloma is a form of cancer in which the plasma cells in the bone marrow grow out of control, causing damage to bones as well as predisposing patients to anaemia, infection and kidney failure. A medical procedure called autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, commonly known as a stem cell transplant, can often be an important treatment option for many patients. Unfortunately, multiple myeloma continues to progress even after a transplant. Within this domain, European researchers have been looking into alternative treatment and in particular at marine extracts and active substances in their search for new methods to fight this disease. They have discovered that marine organisms produce an interesting active substance that could be a great candidate for use in cancer research. Indeed, natural marine-based substances have been found to penetrate a tumour's protective shield. The EU-funded OPTATIO project takes its inspiration from marine organisms and in particular the active substance they produce. Oncotryol, one of the consortium partners, has developed test systems comprising cancer as well as connective tissue cells to better replicate the actual conditions in the human body. Scientists from Prof Lukas Huber's team have

recently used 'in-vivo-like assays' to test hundreds of marine extracts as well as pure substances produced by Spanish biopharmaceutical company PharmaMar, another consortium partner. Of most importance in the screening process was the fact that the candidates kill the cancer cells while leaving the niche cells intact, according to Winfried Wunderlich of Oncotyrol.

Source: [CORDIS](#)

How European researchers are building biofuels with bacteria

Most people associate bacteria with disease and contamination, leaving the microorganisms with few saving graces. Yet their reputation could be about to change over the next few years: researchers are engineering bacteria to provide alternative energy sources to replace fossil fuels. And if they succeed, it will be thanks to projects like MicroGen, a European Union research project looking at new ways to generate renewable fuels from microorganisms. The four-year MicroGen project, which began in December 2006, was one of the EU's Marie Curie Actions (MCAs), a programme supporting the mobility of European researchers. The aim was to build research capacity around the National University of Ireland (NUI) in Galway to explore the potential for microorganisms to generate energy from organic sources like wastewater. "We felt that novel microbiological approaches could be combined to create energy efficient and sustainable wastewater treatment and bioenergy systems," says MicroGen's project coordinator Vincent O'Flaherty, Head of Microbiology at NUI Galway. Backed by a €1 million EU grant, NUI Galway worked with the Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology in Germany, the University of Minho in Portugal and Wageningen University in the Netherlands to provide advanced training to seven PhD-level researchers while investigating the fuel-making abilities of bacteria.

Source: [EUROPEAN COMMISSION](#)

ASEAN

SINGAPORE: Scientists at A*STAR's Genome Institute of Singapore catch evolving germs and cancer cells early

Scientists at A*STAR's Genome Institute of Singapore (GIS) have developed a novel technique to precisely monitor and study the evolution of micro-organisms such as viruses and bacteria. This is an extremely important capability as it allows scientists to investigate if new drugs designed to kill them are working, and catch the development of resistance early on. Micro-organisms and cancer cells evolve more quickly than normal human cells as their rapid life-cycles enable faster selection of advantageous mutations. Previously, scientists have had to wait for the selection process to reach maturity before they can observe mutations and assess their impact. In this new work, led by GIS Principal Investigators Dr Niranjana Nagarajan and Dr Martin Hibberd, the sensitivity of detecting mutations has been significantly increased, thus making it possible to "catch evolution in real time". Being able to do this means that scientists can now observe the process of mutation as it happens, and catch how the organism or cancer cell develops resistance to drugs used.

Source: [A*STAR](#)

THAILAND: KMUTT to enter 'House of the Future' in design contest in Paris

King Mongkut's University of Technology Thon Buri (KMUTT) is going to apply its knowledge to enter a green innovation called the "house of the future" in a world competition. KMUTT was selected recently to compete against 20 teams from around the world in designing, building and operating an energy-efficient and energy-independent house in the "Solar Decathlon" global competition. The KMUTT team comprising students and staff from the university is the only team in ASEAN, and one of four in Asia, picked by the selection panel of the competition. Assoc Prof Bundit Fungtammasan, vice president for research at KMUTT, said this was the first time that the university had submitted a proposal to the competition. "We showed the panel the concept of the house with traditional Thai architecture that helps save energy, produces a low carbon footprint, affects the environment less and is liveable during flooding." The competition will be held at the Versailles in Paris from June-July.

Source: [THE NATION](#)

SINGAPORE: NTU Provost receives prestigious Imperial College fellowship joining the ranks of top UK scientists

Professor Freddy Boey, Provost of Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has received the prestigious Faculty of Medicine Fellowship by Imperial College London, for his contribution to biomedical sciences. The Fellowship was awarded to Prof Boey at Imperial College's Faculty of Medicine, in recognition of his exceptional achievements in medical technology and his outstanding contributions to the development of the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine - a joint medical school between NTU and Imperial College. A renowned serial inventor, Prof Boey had developed many innovative medical devices, which include a customisable hernia mesh, most recently approved for sale by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This NTU-developed hernia mesh is the first such surgical mesh to be passed by the FDA.

Source: [NTU](#)

MALAYSIA: More European and International universities attracted to Iskandar education hub

A growing number of European and international universities are setting up operations on the 243 hectare site that will be part of Iskandar Malaysia, a new eco-city and trading zone with districts for tourism, health care and education, designed to help regenerate Johor state. Around 16,000 students are expected to attend universities and schools at EduCity once the project in Nusajaya is completed, transforming the region into a 'global hub'. Mohd Hisham Kamaruzaman, acting chief operating officer of Education@Iskandar Sdn Bhd – a subsidiary of the government-owned company Iskandar Investment Berhad (IIB), which is responsible for developing EduCity – told University World News that the student village and sports complex will be ready by August, in time for the next academic year. Three institutions have already begun full-time operations – Britain's Newcastle University, Medicine Malaysia (NUMed) and the University of Southampton's Malaysia Campus, which started in September 2012, as well as Marlborough College Malaysia, a branch of the British boarding school. Reg Jordan, CEO and provost of NUMed, said that while its target market is Malaysia, the institution expects that by 2020 30% of students will be from outside the country, mostly from Asia. "With over 60% of educational demand expected to come from South East Asia and the Asian region by 2025, it is the right time for EduCity to take the lead and cater to this," said Siti Hamsah, a deputy director general in the Ministry of Higher Education. Hisham

added that the proportion of the nationalities of the students would vary across institutions. At Marlborough School in Malaysia, 60% of the students are expatriates, mainly from the UK and Europe, residing in Singapore. Hisham said four other institutions had started operations at a temporary campus in Johor Bahru, capital of Johor state – Netherlands Maritime Institute of Technology, which is to open in EduCity mid-year, Britain’s University of Reading Malaysia Campus, and Raffles University Iskandar – a joint venture between Singapore’s Raffles Education Corporation Ltd and Education@Iskandar Sdn Bhd.

Source: [University World News](#)

4. GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

International Cooperation opportunities in FP7 for ASEAN countries

DG Research and Innovation has published tailored presentations for various world regions, highlighting the key areas of FP7 with a focus on international cooperation and specific opportunities for ASEAN countries.

Further information can be found here:

[DG Research & Innovation: International Cooperation ASEAN](#)

Open calls in the 7th Framework Programme (FP7)

Below is a list of all currently open calls in each strand of FP7. The work programmes for 2013 can be found here: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/wp-2013_en.html

You can also find a good overview of upcoming calls at EURESEARCH, the platform on European research by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF).

COOPERATION

9 open calls remain in the Cooperation strand of FP7.

- Information and Communication Technologies – **2** open calls
- Environment (including Climate Change) – **1** open call
- Transport (including Aeronautics) – **1** open call
- Joint Technology Initiatives (Annex IV-SP1) – **5** open calls

Forthcoming calls in the Cooperation strand of FP7.

Call Identifier	Call Title	Foreseen Date of Publication
SP1-JTI-CS-2013-03	Clean Sky JTI 2013-03	2013-07-09
FP7-2013-ICT-FI	Future Internet	2013-05-16
ENIAC-2013-2	ENIAC Call 9 - 2013	2013-04-11
SP1-JTI-CS-2013-02	Clean Sky JTI 2013-02	2013-04-09

Further Information: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/cooperation>

IDEAS

1 open call remains in the Ideas strand of FP7.

Call Identifier	Call Title	Publication	Deadline
ERC-2013-PoC	Calls for proposals for ERC Proof of Concept Grant	2013-01-10	2013-10-03

Further information: [IDEAS](#)

For more general **information for non-European researchers** in the ERC's grants:

<http://erc.europa.eu/non-european-researchers>

PEOPLE

4 open calls remain in the People strand of FP7.

Call Identifier	Call Title	Publication	Cut-off dates	Deadline
FP7-PEOPLE-2013-CIG	Marie Curie Career Integration Grants (CIG)	2012-10-18	2013-03-07	2013-09-18
FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IOF	Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowships for Career Development	2013-03-14		2013-08-14
FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IIF	Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowships (IIF)	2013-03-14		2013-08-14
FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IEF	Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowships for Career Development (IEF)	2013-03-14		2013-08-14

Further information: [PEOPLE](#)

CAPACITIES

2 open calls remain in the Capacities strand of FP7.

Call Identifier	Call Title	Publication	Deadline
FP7-ERACHairs-PilotCall-2013	ERA Chairs Pilot Call	2012-12-18	2013-05-30
FP7-CDRP-Women-Innovators	EU Prize for Women Innovators 2014	2012-07-10	2013-10-15

Further information: [CAPACITIES](#)

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READI: Call for Proposals for ASEAN Pilot Networks of Excellence

The Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI) has launched a Call for Proposals for ASEAN Pilot Networks of Excellence in Food Security Research as well as Green Technology (especially biofuels).

One Pilot Network will be supported in each of these areas with:

- up to €25,000 per network for workshop costs, travel and per diems (EU rates apply; funds to be spent via READI)
- paid senior expert working days (e.g. for inviting visiting scholars or experts from Europe or ASEAN to the labs in your network, to joint workshops, summer schools, etc.)
- paid junior expert working days (for a junior personnel working at the lab, which coordinates the network, for the network's future funding, communication, administration, etc.)

The deadline for applications is 31 March 2013.

Further Information: sea-eu.net

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SWEDEN: General Call for Applications 2013 now open

- The 2013 general call for applications is now open. Closing dates for applications vary between subject areas and calls for application.
- Humanities and Social Sciences, Educational Sciences and Infrastructure and Artistic Research – latest 6 May 2013
- Medicine and Health – earliest 4 April 2013, latest 6 May 2013
- Natural and Engineering Sciences – earliest 11 April 2013, latest 6 May 2013
- Framework grant and graduate school within SIMSAM – 17 April 2013

Further information: Swedish Research Council

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GERMANY: AvH Georg Forster Research Award – call for nominations

The Georg Forster Award is granted in recognition of a researcher's entire achievements to date to academics of all disciplines whose fundamental discoveries, new theories, or insights have had a significant impact on their own discipline and beyond and who are expected to continue developing research-based solutions to the specific challenges facing transition and developing countries. Nominees must be nationals of a developing or transition country and must have had their main residence and place of work in one of these countries for at least five years. The award amount totals EUR 60,000. In addition, award winners are invited to conduct a research project of their own choosing in Germany in close collaboration with a specialist colleague. The project duration of about six to twelve months may be divided into segments. In addition, further expenditures (such as travel or language courses) are covered in the context of the invitation to stay in Germany for research purposes. To support the

collaboration, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation may grant additional funding of up to EUR 25,000, particularly for participating in scientific conferences, additional material resources, e.g., specialist literature and scientific equipment for the nominee's own institute, as well as for involving junior researchers. An established academic employed by a university or research institution in Germany must take the initiative to nominate a candidate for the Georg Forster Research Award. Nominations may also be initiated by award winners of the Humboldt Foundation working abroad, provided that the nomination is made jointly with a colleague working in Germany. Self-nomination is not possible.

Deadline for nomination: 15 May 2013

Further information: [AvH](#)

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AUSTRIA: Institute of Science and Technology, Austria: ISTFELLOW

IST Austria in Vienna has set up a programme for exceptional postdoctoral researchers partially funded by the European Union, ISTFELLOW. The programme will fund 40 fellows for a period of two years each. ISTFELLOW is open to qualified applicants from all over the world who are interested in spending the postdoctoral stage of their scientific research career at IST Austria. As the research portfolio of the Institute continues to branch out into other areas in the coming years, including physics, chemistry, and mathematics, so will the ISTFELLOW programme. ISTFELLOW will give preference to scientists who have a strong interest in cross-disciplinary approaches. Applications will be accepted at any time, but fellows will be selected twice a year in October and April. The deadlines for each selection are the 15th of September and March. Applicants must have the support of one or more members of the IST Austria faculty who will host them in their research group.

Application deadlines: 15 September 2013

Further information: [ISTFELLOW](#)

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EMBO funding for Courses & Workshops

Biannual selection by a committee of members of the European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) ensures the consistent high quality and novelty of EMBO-funded courses, workshops and conferences. The commitment of the scientific organizers guarantees the long-term success of the programme to inform and train researchers at all career stages. With over 80 meetings attracting more than 8,000 participants every year, EMBO offers the largest number of scientific training events in Europe. Funding is available for conference series, workshops, practical courses and symposia as well as plenary lectures. EMBO assists organizers with websites, posters and registration.

Further information: [EMBO Courses & Workshops](#)

5. JOBS

EURAXESS Jobs

There are currently **6596** research jobs and fellowship programmes (all over Europe and in all disciplines) accessible via the EURAXESS Jobs database.

To learn more about these programmes and the application procedures, or to post your CV on the database, please visit the [Jobs web site](#):

For the latest research jobs go directly to:

<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/jobs/latestjobs>

To access information on fellowship and grants:

<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/jobs/fgNationalLevel>

6. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

EMBO Events Calendar

Find the latest event announcements of the European Molecular Biology Organisation at [EMBO Events Calendar](#).

EU Centre in Singapore

The latest events can be found at [EU Centre Events](#)

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INDONESIA: Call for Papers - 2013 International Conference on Computer, Control, Informatics and its Applications, Jakarta, 19 – 21 November

The 2013 International Conference on Computer, Control, Informatics and its Applications (2013 IC3INA) will be held in Jakarta, Indonesia from 19 – 21 November. This is an annual event co-organized by the Research Center for Informatics, the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) and IEEE Indonesia Section. It is intended to gather researchers, scientists, engineers, scholar students and practitioners to present their research findings, innovations and developments, and to exchange ideas on the progress of advanced technologies of computer, control, informatics and its applications. Submissions of paper proposals are invited for the following four tracks: computer, control, informatics and applications.

Deadline for submission of papers: 28 June 2013

Further details: [2013 IC3INA](#)

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INDONESIA: HABITechno 2013, 11 November 2013

This inaugural seminar of HABITechno, will take place at the Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia, on 11 November 2013. The seminar will focus on innovations in the concepts and solutions of contemporary technologies for the development of housing and human

settlements, particularly for the low-income in the developing world. The organisers invite researchers from universities and other research institutions to present papers on innovations in response to challenges related to the development of housing and human settlement. This seminar is open to participants from various disciplines such as planning, design, management, engineering and social sciences.

The deadline for abstract submissions is 13 April 2013.

Further information: [HABITECHNO](#)

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SINGAPORE: 3rd Nano Today Conference, 8 – 11 December 2013, Biopolis

The organizers of the 3rd Nano Today Conference to be held at Biopolis, Singapore on 8 to 11 December invite abstracts on the following conference topics:

- Synthesis and Self-Assembly of Nanocrystals, Nanoparticles and Thin Films
- Functionalization and Size-Dependent Properties of Nanocrystals, Quantum Dots and Nanowires
- Processing and Templating of Nanotubes and Nanoporous Materials
- Tailoring of Polymeric Nanoparticles, Organic-Inorganic Nanocomposites and Biohybrids
- Nanosystems for Biological and Medical Applications
- Nanosystems for Sensing, Diagnostic, Imaging, Magnetic, Electronic and Structural Applications
- Nanomaterials for Energy and Environmental Applications
- Nanomaterials for Chemical and Catalytic Applications

Abstract deadline: 1 April 2013

Further information: [Nano Today 2013](#)

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SINGAPORE: World Health Summit, Regional Meeting, 8 – 10 April 2013

The World Health Summit will be holding its first regional meeting outside of Berlin, in Singapore to provide a platform for health care policy makers, experts, and practitioners to discuss and exchange ideas on current issues of medical research, innovation and health systems and find solutions for today's health challenges in Asia. Themed "Health for Sustainable Development in Asia" this high level meeting will be held in Singapore from April 8th to 10th, 2013, at the Ritz-Carlton, Millenia Singapore. The Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Lee Hsien Loong, will be Guest-of-Honor at the Official Opening Ceremony on April 8th.

Further information: [WHS](#)

THAILAND: Workshop on Iterative Risk Management for Climate Change Adaptation, 22 – 26 April 2013

A five-day training workshop on “Iterative Risk Management for Climate Change Adaptation” is being organized by Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES), a partner of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) from 22 – 26 April 2013 at the AIT campus. The training shall mentor participants in designing and implementing iterative and flexible risk management plans. It shall help them to understand the iterative risk management process in view of the complexities and uncertainties inherent in climate-related risks; and to establish ways to ensure continuous re-evaluation of their risk management plans, so that information is considered and incorporated at regular intervals.

Further Information: [Asian Institute of Technology](#)

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**THAILAND: 13th Science Council of Asia Conference and International Symposium
Role of Science in Asia: Facing the Challenges of AEC2015, 7 – 9 May 2013**

Establishing the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015 (AEC) will transform ASEAN into a region with free movement of goods, services, investment, skilled labour, and freer flow of capital. The conference will provide a forum for discussions and presentations on:

- To review the role of science in Asia in facing the challenges of AEC2015
- To review how AEC provides benefit to all Asian countries
- To review the benefit of ASEAN single market
- To exchange ideas, concepts and best practices of non Asean and Asean countries in facing the outcome of AEC2015
- To promote collaboration among experts in Asian countries to AEC2015
- Good and Cooperative management natural resources in region

The deadline for registration is 15 April 2013

Further information: [Science Council of Asia](#)

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BELGIUM: World Research and Innovation Congress, Brussels, 5 & 6 June 2013

The World Research and Innovation Congress will bring together 500 experts from the global scientific health community including researchers, policy-makers, NGOs and other stakeholders to exchange experiences, to build partnerships and to discuss strategies on future challenges.

Abstracts are accepted on a rolling application deadline

Further information: [WRIC](#)

BELGIUM: The 1st International conference on Internet Science, Brussels, 10 & 11 April 2013

The 1st international conference on Internet Science will be organized from April 10 to 11, 2013 in Brussels, under the aegis of the European Commission, by the EINS project, the FP7 European Network of Excellence in Internet Science. Hosted by the [Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts](#), this highly multidisciplinary conference combines Computer Science, Sociology, Art, Mathematics, Physics, Complex systems analysis, Psychology, Economics, Law, Political Science, Epistemology and other relevant disciplines. It will be the unique venue fostering dialogue among scholars and practitioners belonging to these disciplines. It will also provide the EINS Network of Excellence with an opportunity to interact with external stakeholders, detail project objectives and methodological approach, and showcase its first results.

Further information: [Internet Science](#)

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DENMARK: 21st European Biomass Conference and Exhibition, Copenhagen, 3 – 7 June 2013

For over 30 years now, the European Biomass Conference and Exhibition (EU BC&E) has combined a very renowned international Scientific Conference with an Industry Exhibition. The EU BC&E is held at different venues throughout Europe and ranks on top of the world's leading events in the Biomass sector. This EU BC&E is supported by European and international organizations such as the European Commission, UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Natural Sciences Sector, WCRE - the World Council for Renewable Energy, EUBIA - the European Biomass Industry Association, and other organisations. The Technical Programme is coordinated by the European Commission, Joint Research Centre JRC. The Conference will discuss major issues for the biomass markets, in technical and business areas, from resource assessment to market and policy developments, drawing on leading experiences from all over Europe and worldwide. The event aims to encourage an international exchange of experience on policy, research and development, manufacturing and installation, and to be a showcase for the latest technologies.

Further information: [EU BC&E](#)

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FRANCE: International Workshop on Organic Matter Spectroscopy 2013 (WOMS 2013), 16 – 19 July 2013

WOMS 2013 invites new contributions about the characterisation of dissolved organic matter in marine and inland waters using spectroscopic techniques, particularly fluorescence spectroscopy, coupled with advanced signal and image processing tools, such as improved data analysis, detection, clustering, separation, reconstruction, tracking and real-time monitoring. The purpose of WOMS 2013 is to present new and effective approaches in the area of fluorescence spectroscopy for the analysis of environmental data. It is also to be a meeting place for both the signal processing community and the environmental organic

matter community in order to strengthen their dialogue and interaction towards a mutual scientific topic.

The deadline for electronic submission is 31 March 2013

Further information: [WOMS 2013](#)

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GERMANY: Graphene Week 2013, Chemnitz, 2 – 7 June 2013

The 7th International Conference on the Fundamental Science of Graphene and Applications of Graphene-Based Devices (Graphene Week 2013) is devoted to the science and technology of graphene (atomically thin graphitic films – monolayers, bilayers, trilayers), investigation of its physical properties, advances in its growth and chemical processing, manufacturing graphene-based devices, and emerging applications of this new material. Organised by the Graphene Community for the Graphene Community, it focusses on sharing the latest developments across disciplinary borders and connecting the international graphene community. The Conference programme will include invited talks by leading experts, contributed talks by young talent and poster sessions.

Further information: [Graphene](#)

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GERMANY: Future Megacities in Action, Hamburg, 14 – 16 May 2013

The international conference Future Megacities in Action will highlight good practice examples of energy and climate efficient urbanisation from Asia, Africa and America, set against the European background. It will feature the results of the research programme “Future Megacities” funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research since 2005: technical, social and economic solutions developed by participating bilateral and trans-disciplinary research teams for and with cities. It will also present innovative approaches taken in other cities that stand out in their efforts towards achieving greater sustainability. Spotlights on urban challenges and needs, workshops and a market place will provide insights into model solutions, products and tangible results.

Early registration closes on 28 March 2013.

Further information: [Mega Cities](#)

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SPAIN: Cleantech Forum Europe 2013 - Re-imagining Cleantech: Unlocking Growth in an Open Innovation World, Bilbao, 16 – 18 April 2013

The Cleantech Forum Europe is a high-value annual meeting with a global scope, organised by Cleantech Group®, whose focus is on clean technology innovation. The Cleantech Forum Europe promotes contact with the main European leading regions in technological innovation and is oriented towards creating business and investment opportunities among the different international players. This year, the Cleantech Forum Europe 2013 comes to Bilbao in order to boost business opportunities between local and international actors of clean technologies, and also to strengthen the Basque cleantech ecosystem. Last year, over 120 investors attended,

collectively accounting for over \$400 million in investment in 60 companies over the previous 12 months.

Further Information: [Cleantech](#)

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SPAIN: CONCORDi-2013: 4th European Conference on Corporate R&D and Innovation, Seville, 26 & 27 September 2013

The 4th European Conference on Corporate R&D and Innovation (CONCORDi-2013) will focus on “Financing R&D and innovation for corporate growth in the EU: Strategies, drivers and barriers”. It will take place from 26 to 27 September 2013 at the premises of the JRC’s Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (JRC-IPTS) in Seville, Spain. The two-day programme will address the financial challenges affecting the link between innovation and growth of European companies.

Further information: [CONCORDi-2013](#)

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SPAIN: Fifth International Conference on Environmental, Industrial and Applied Microbiology - BioMicroWorld2013, Madrid, 2 – 4 October 2013

BioMicroWorld2013 will bring together researchers, engineers and scientists in the fields of industrial microbiology, biotechnology, environmental sciences, agriculture, food and medical microbiology, and other related fields, to communicate current research priorities and progress in those fields, and to identify new research approaches.

Deadline for abstract submission: 2 July 2013 for oral presentations and 30 July 2013 for poster/virtual presentations

Further information: [BioMicroWorld2013](#)

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SWITZERLAND: Environment and Health – Bridging South, North, East and West, Basel, 19 – 23 August 2013

The ISEE (International Society for Environmental Epidemiology), ISES (International Society of Exposure Science), and the ISIAQ (International Society of Indoor Air Quality and Climate) invite you to the 2013 conference in Basel, hosted by the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (SwissTPH). The conference aims at presenting recent scientific achievements in the field of exposure science and environmental health from all relevant disciplines and covering a broad range of topics. It is the place where scientists from all continents will meet. This is the first-ever joint conference of three leading scientific societies dedicated to improving public health.

The conference will feature – among other issues – the following key topics:

- Assessing exposure to indoor and ambient air pollution, noise, chemicals, toxic waste and electromagnetic fields and evaluating long term health impact
- Methodological challenges for global environmental epidemiology

- Environmental risks in the context of rapid urbanization in resource-poor settings
- Environmental susceptibility and resilience due to genes, co-morbidities, and socio-cultural and socio-economic factors
- Life course environmental epidemiology
- Linking science and policy through impact assessment
- Indoor and outdoor environmental interventions to improve health
- Water, sanitation and health linkages
- Linkages between agriculture, environment and diseases of poverty
- Effect of climate change and climate variability on environment and health
- Health impacts of natural resources development and management (e.g. extractive industry, water-resource developments)

Further Information: [Environment and Health](#)

7. [RESOURCES](#)

Latest Calls

You can always find the latest calls on the newly set up [Research Participant Portal](#).

International Cooperation Activities

The portal of the European Commission's International Cooperation Activities at <http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/>

Become an Expert Evaluator for FP7

The website to register as an expert for research activities is available on CORDIS. The call for experts is open both for individuals and for organizations.

Source: [CORDIS](#)

Other Research Career Sites

The Chronicle of Higher Education Careers Service: <http://chronicle.com/jobs/>

Find A Postdoc: <http://www.findapostdoc.com/>

Find Scholarships in Europe: <http://www.scholarshipportal.eu/>

Find PhDs in Europe: <http://www.phdportal.eu/>

Academic Jobs EU: <http://www.academicjobseu.com>

Euro Science Jobs: <http://www.eurosciencejobs.com/>

The European Job Mobility Portal: <http://ec.europa.eu/eures/home.jsp?lang=en>

EMBO excellence in life sciences: <http://www.embo.org>

EuroBrussels: <http://www.eurobrussels.com/>

Jobs at ITER: <http://www.iter.org/jobs>

Nature.jobs: <http://www.nature.com/naturejobs/index.html>

Jobs.ac.uk: www.jobs.ac.uk

Research Jobs in Germany: Research-in-Germany.de

[Scholarship Database of the German Academic Exchange Service \(DAAD\)](#)

Research Jobs in the Netherlands: <http://www.academictransfer.org/>

Brainpower Austria: <http://www.brainpower-austria.at/>

EURAXESS Portal

The [EURAXESS portal](#) provides links to information on career and grant opportunities in science and technology in European countries. For research careers in Europe, visit the [EURAXESS Jobs](#) website.

8. ABOUT EURAXESS LINKS ASEAN

EURAXESS Links is a networking tool for European researchers working outside Europe and non-European ones wishing to pursue a research career in Europe. It has thus far been launched in the USA, Japan, China, India and Singapore, with the first EURAXESS Links “hub” having been launched in 2013 as EURAXESS Links ASEAN. EURAXESS Links provides information about research in Europe, European research policy, opportunities for research funding, for international collaboration and for trans-national mobility. Membership is free. For further information and to sign up for membership in our network, as well as in the virtual SINAPSE community of European researchers abroad, please [go to our website](#) and click on the Join the EURAXESS Links ASEAN community hyperlink on the right-hand side of the page

9. ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

EURAXESS Links ASEAN Newsletter is a monthly electronic newsletter, edited by EURAXESS Links ASEAN, which provides information of specific interest to European and non-European researchers in ASEAN who are interested in the European research landscape and conducting research in Europe or with European partners.

The information contained in this publication is intended for personal use only. It should not be taken in any way to reflect the views of the European Commission nor of the Delegations of the European Union.

Please email to asean@euraxess.net for any comments on this newsletter, contributions you would like to make, if you think any other colleagues would be interested in receiving this newsletter, or if you wish to unsubscribe.

Editor: Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu, EURAXESS Links ASEAN, Regional Representative